

Petition P4-0008, filed on behalf of Mississippi shrimp producers.

Background:

On December 4, 2003, the Federal Register published notice that the United Fisheries Co-op, Inc., Biloxi, Mississippi, had filed a petition for trade adjustment assistance on behalf of shrimpers in Mississippi.

The petition indicated that the marketing year impacted by imports of farmed shrimp was January - December 2002. The 5-year base period used for the purpose of a price comparison was 1997-2001.

Analysis:

USDA evaluated official prices for shrimp produced in Mississippi compiled by the National Marine Fisheries Service. Based on this data, USDA found that in 2002, Mississippi shrimpers received an average price of \$1.778 per pound. The average price for the 5-year base period was \$2.218 per pound. The 2002 price was 80.2 percent of the 5-year average, indicating a decline of 19.8 percent from the base period.

Reason for denial of petition:

To qualify for TAA, the producer price of a commodity must decline by more than 20 percent from the average for the base period. Consequently, the petition was denied, and notice was published in the Federal Register on January 15, 2004.